



PRESS RELEASE

House National Security Committee

Floyd D. Spence, Chairman

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SPENCE CRITICIZES DEFENSE BUDGET

“CBO’s estimate that the President’s budget underfunds defense by over \$5.6 billion in outlays is just one more example of the budget shell game being played by the Administration. Moreover, the CBO estimate assumes that Congress will grant the President blanket rescission authority to cut \$4.8 billion in current defense spending — which is highly unlikely. And this situation is further exacerbated when you consider that certain “must pay” programs — like the defense health program — were underfunded in the President’s request by hundreds of millions of dollars. Smoke and mirrors of this magnitude are going to greatly complicate consideration of the defense budget and puts at risk Congress’s on-going efforts to address growing quality of life, readiness and modernization shortfalls.”

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